UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/640,839	08/16/2000	Mark Gregory McClanahan	RPS9-2000-0052US1	. 4229

45211   7590   12/01/2004
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EXAMINER
LANIER, BENJAMIN E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2132	

DATE MAILED: 12/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *23 August 2004*.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-81* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-81* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on *16 August 2000* is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some *   c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1.   Applicant's arguments, see Amendment A, filed 23 August 2004, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-81 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of IBMTDB Vol. 32, No. 8A January 1990 (1449 reference AQA).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3.   Claims 1-81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

4.   Claims 1, 28, 55 essentially claim a method for bypassing a user sign-on screen by presenting the user with a sign-on screen. This language renders the claims vague and indefinite. For the purposes of examination, the claimed invention will be interpreted to be a method of bypassing a series of application sign-on screens by presenting the user with a single initial sign-on screen.

5.   Claims 14, 21, 27, 41, 48, 54, 68, 75, 81 recite the limitation of having a user log off and then re-logon in order to gain a different access level. This limitation appears to be in direct contrast to the apparent purpose of the invention which is to avoid having to logon multiple times per user.

6.   Claims 8, 9 recite the limitation "said switch user program" in lines 1-2. There is

insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8.   Claims 1-81 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by IBMTDB Vol.

32, No. 8A January 1990 (1449 reference AQA). Referring to claims 1-3, 7, 14, 15, 21, 23, 27,

28, 29, 30, 33, 41, 42, 48, 50, 54-57, 60, 68, 69, 75, 77, 81, IBMTDB discloses a system wide

login where a user is presented with a single sign-on procedure in order for the user to logon

securely to several systems at once using a single access code. Thus providing access to several

applications or systems (Page 303-304), which meets the limitation of generating an application

framework sign-on screen, entering a logon input on said generated application framework sign-

on screen. The user's logon information is verified against a database of user information to

provide system access (Page 304) at a user security level (Page 304), which meets the limitation

of providing application framework, wherein said application framework logs on a user with a

first level of access in said underlying operating system, comparing said logon input with an

application framework security database to determine level of access, selecting an indication of

said first level of access.

Referring to claims 4, 10, 16, 24, 31, 37, 43, 51, 58, 64, 70, 78, IBMTDB discloses that if

the user does not have the appropriate permissions to access a certain application, the single sign-

on will not provide access to that application (Page 303-304), which meets the limitation of if

said logon input is not entitled to a second level of access according to said application

framework security database, then said user is logged onto an application environment and said

underlying operating system as said first level of access.

Referring to claims 5, 32, 59, IBMTDB discloses the logon information comprises a

userid and password (Page 303).

Referring to claims 6, 9, 11, 12, 17-19, 22, 25, 34, 36, 38, 39, 44-46, 49, 52, 61, 63, 65,

66, 71-73, 76, 79, IBMTDB discloses that users can have multiple level of authority allowing

them to perform and access different functionality within the system. When it is determined that

a user is entitle such functionality, the user authority level is switched to enable the user access at

the desired authority level (Page 303), which meets the limitation of if a logon input is entitled to

a second level of access according to said application frame work security database, then the

method further comprises the step of: executing a switch user program to switch said user to said

second level of access.

Referring to claims 8, 13, 20, 26, 35, 40, 47, 53, 62, 67, 74, 80, IMBTDB discloses that

when the user authority level is switched the user information in the remote authorization table is

modified (Page 304-305), which meets the limitation of switching said user to said second level

of access by modifying an underlying operating system's registry.

Referring to claims 14, 21, 27, 41, 68, IMBTDB discloses using logoff capabilities (Page

304).

Conclusion

9.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

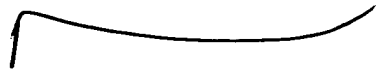examiner should be directed to Benjamin E Lanier whose telephone number is 571-272-3805.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th0 7:30am-5:00pm, F 7:30am-4pm.

        If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

        Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Benjamin E. Lanier

THOMAS R. PEESO
PRIMARY EXAMINER